IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Meric *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/489,676

Filed: January 24, 2000

For: **IEEE Set Top Box Device Driver**

Art Unit: 2713

Examiner: (to be assigned)

Atty. Docket: 1581.0540001

First Supplemental Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to any action on the merits, Applicants respectfully request that the following change be made:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

34.   (Twice Amended) A data processing system comprising:

run-time engine means for running an application;

interface means for connection to at least one device, the interface having at least one feature to which an interface identifier is assigned, each interface identifier being liable to change after at least one event; and

device driver means [to 33] for effecting communication between the application and the interface means, the device driver means comprising

means for storing at least one logical identifier corresponding to a respective interface identifier,

means for providing the logical identifier to the application for directing communication associated with the corresponding feature between the device driver means and the application, and

means for maintaining correspondence between each logical identifier and each feature independently of the interface identifier assigned to the feature so that communication between the application and the device driver means directed using a